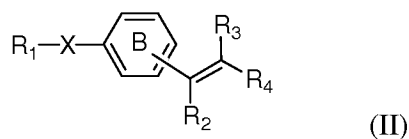
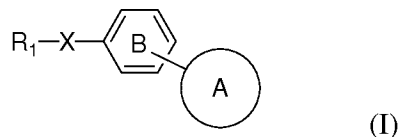


Amendments to the Claims

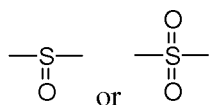
This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended). A compound represented by the formula (I) or the formula (II) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein X is

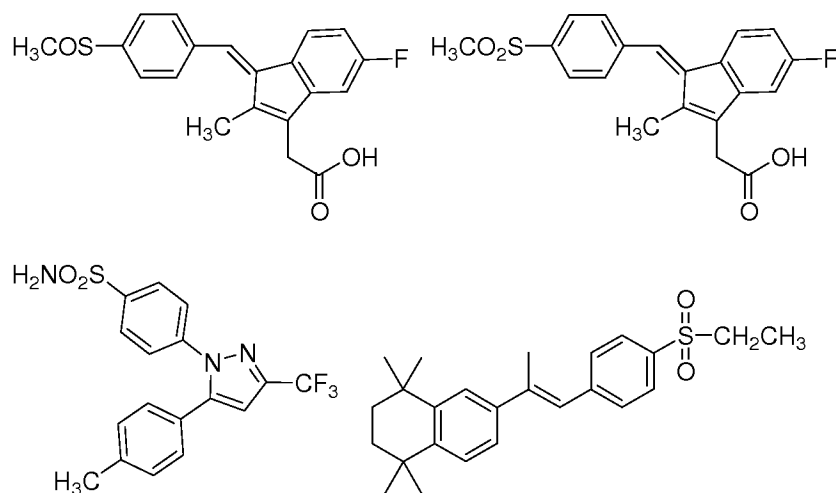


ring A is an optionally substituted saturated or unsaturated cyclic hydrocarbon group or saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group;

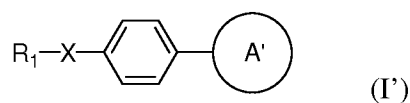
ring B is a benzene ring optionally further having one to four substituents;

R₁ is an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted aryl group, a substituted amido group or an optionally substituted amino group, wherein in the formula (I), when X is -SO₂-, R₁ is not -NH₂- or -N=CH-NR₅R₅-, wherein R₅ is alkyl;

each of R₂ to R₄, whether identical or not, is a hydrogen atom, a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group or a saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group (R₃ and R₄ may bind together to form a ring), except that the compounds shown below are excluded



2. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is a compound represented by the formula (I'):



wherein ring A' is an optionally substituted saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group, and R₁ and X are as defined in claim 1,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 2, wherein in the formula (I'), the ring A' is a saturated or unsaturated cyclic hydrocarbon group or saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of saturated or unsaturated cyclic hydrocarbon groups, saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic groups, carboxyl groups, substituted amido groups and optionally substituted lower alkyl groups, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 2, wherein in the formula (I'), the ring A' is a saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group having both any one substituent selected from the group consisting of saturated or unsaturated cyclic hydrocarbon groups and saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic groups, and any one substituent selected from the group consisting of

carboxyl groups, substituted amido groups and optionally substituted lower alkyl groups, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein in the formula (II), the ring formed by mutually binding R₃ and R₄ is a saturated or unsaturated cyclic hydrocarbon group or a saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group optionally having at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of carboxyl groups, substituted amido groups and optionally substituted lower alkyl groups, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein in the formula (II), the ring formed by binding of R₃ and R₄ is a saturated or unsaturated cyclic hydrocarbon group optionally having at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of carboxyl groups, substituted amido groups and optionally substituted lower alkyl groups, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein the saturated or unsaturated cyclic hydrocarbon group is indene, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, the compound of claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 8, wherein the active ingredient is present in an amount effective to treat a disease selected from the group consisting of a proliferative disease, an inflammatory disease and an encephalopathy.

Claims 10-20 (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A method for screening for a low molecular weight compound useful in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of a proliferative disease, an inflammatory disease and an encephalopathy, which method comprises:

- (1) bringing KSRP or a functional fragment thereof into contact with ~~a~~ the compound,
- (2) determining whether or not the compound specifically binds to KSRP or a functional fragment thereof, and

(3) selecting ~~a~~ the compound that specifically binds to KSRP or a functional fragment thereof.

22. (Currently amended) A method for screening for a low molecular weight compound useful in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of a proliferative disease, an inflammatory disease and an encephalopathy, which method comprises:

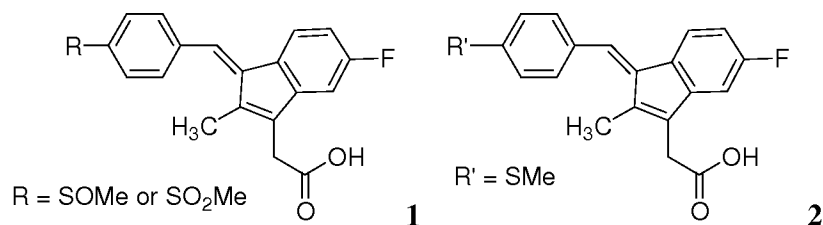
(1) bringing a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a functional fragment thereof into contact with ~~a~~ the compound,

(2) determining whether or not the compound specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof, and

(3) selecting ~~a~~ the compound that specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof.

23. (Currently amended) A method for screening for a low molecular weight compound useful in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of a proliferative disease, an inflammatory disease and an encephalopathy, which method comprises:

(1) bringing a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein one or more amino acids are deleted, substituted or added, and which: (i) binds to a compound of formula 1, and (ii) does not bind to a compound of formula 2



or a functional fragment thereof into contact with ~~a~~ the compound,

(2) determining whether or not the compound specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof, and

(3) selecting ~~a~~ the compound that specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof.

24. (Currently amended) A method for screening for a low molecular weight compound useful in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of a proliferative disease, an inflammatory disease and an encephalopathy, which method comprises:

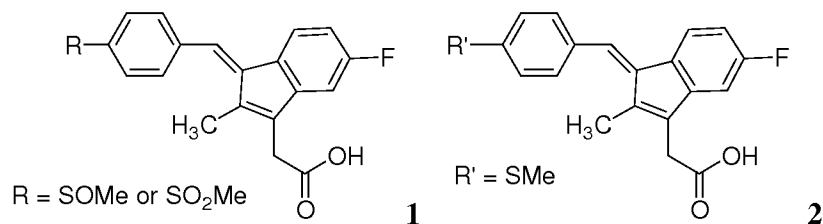
(1) bringing a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or a functional fragment thereof into contact with ~~a~~ the compound,

(2) determining whether or not the compound specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof, and

(3) selecting ~~a~~ the compound that specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof.

25. (Currently amended) A method for screening for a low molecular weight compound useful in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of a proliferative disease, an inflammatory disease and an encephalopathy, which method comprises:

(1) bringing a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein one or more amino acids are deleted, substituted or added, and which: (i) binds to a compound of formula 1, and (ii) does not bind to a compound of formula 2



or a functional fragment thereof into contact with ~~a~~ the compound,

(2) determining whether or not the compound specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof, and

(3) selecting ~~a~~ the compound that specifically binds to the protein or a functional fragment thereof.

Claims 26-33 (Canceled)